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paper board packaging

November 1982

Developments in Printing Processes

AICC

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on the cover

This month *Paperboard Packaging* takes a look at recent printing and press developments in the industry. Photo by Jeff Frey.

features

PRINTING & GRAPHICS

Printing and Press Developments: A Status Report **18**
In the past few years a number of transformations have either started or continued to grow in some of the printing processes used in the folding carton and corrugated box industry. *Paperboard Packaging* takes a closer look.

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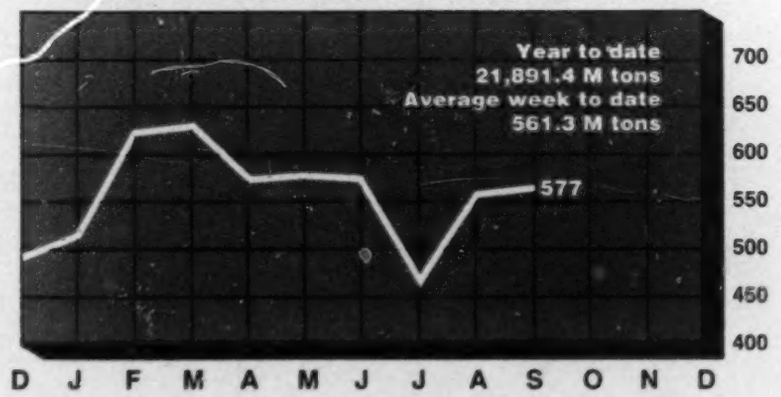
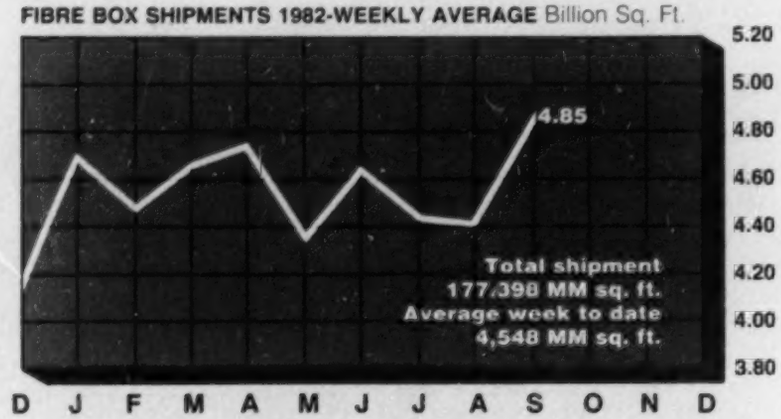
INDUSTRY STATISTICS

PAPERBOARD PRODUCTION 1982-WEEKLY AVERAGE 1,000 Tons



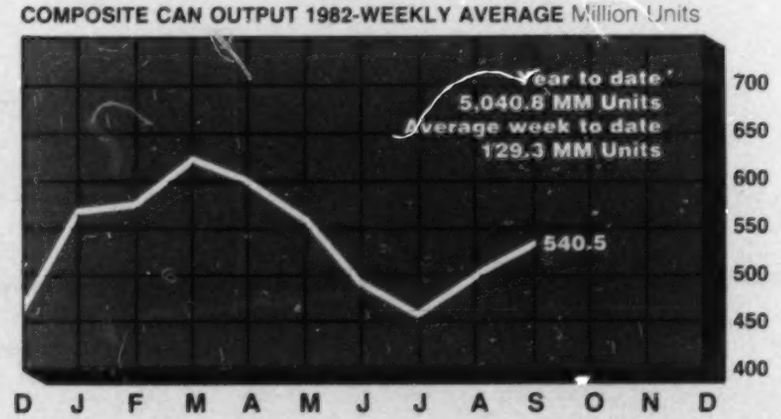
PAPERBOARD MILL OPERATIONS:
The first three quarters of 1982 concluded with average-week board output 9.2% below same-period 1981 tonnage, compared with a 3.8% rise in '81 from '80, a 1% drop in '80 from '79, and a 3.3% rise in '79 from '78. However, the third quarter itself produced an 11% slump from '81, with drops of 12.3% in unbleached kraft furnishes, 13% in semichemical, 8.3% in solid bleached, and 7.8% in recycled. These sharp declines in the containerboard grades—more than double the drop in fibre box shipments—reveals the sad state of export markets.

FIBRE BOX SHIPMENTS 1982-WEEKLY AVERAGE Billion Sq. Ft.



PAPERBOARD-TYPE PRODUCTION:
In September, 2472.5 M total tons of output—down 0.8% from '82—appeared as 1812.1 M of containerboard grades—down 1.7%—and 660.4 M of boxboards—up 2%—according to projections from the American Paper Institute's "production by furnish" data. This 2.75-to-1 tonnage ratio compares most unfavorably with the traditional 2-to-1 of more normal economic times. It would substantiate informal reports of double-digit drops in volume of packagings made from the boxboard grades, but no longer reported publicly by compilers.

COMPOSITE CAN OUTPUT 1982-WEEKLY AVERAGE Million Units



RIGID PAPER BOXES:
Three quarters of the way through 1982, major set-up boxmakers report a drop of some 9% in total billings from '81, compared with increases of 10% in '81 over '80, 6% in '80 over '79, and 8.7% in '79 over '78. The general reduction in money available for non-essentials is clearly having a strong effect on the rigid box—normally associated with much "luxury" packaging. The toehold of geography continues also, with highly industrialized (and thus high-unemployment) regions affected very strongly, compared with relatively mild fall-offs elsewhere.